

Interview Summary

Application No.

09/333,963

Applicant(s)

TAKAOKA, NAOKI

Examiner

Colin M. LaRose

Art Unit

2623

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Colin M. LaRose. (3) _____.

(2) Hyung Sohn (44,346). (4) _____.

Date of Interview: 09 September 2005.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.
If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: 1.

Identification of prior art discussed: Kubo, Anderson.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☒ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Discussed proposed amendments to the claims. Tentative agreement regarding the claims had been reached.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

Examiner's signature, if required

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

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1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An image processing apparatus for processing an image recorded on a recording medium, said image processing apparatus comprising:

an image reading device for reading the image recorded on the recording medium as digital image data, subjecting the read digital image data to predetermined image processing, and outputting processed image data;

means for carrying out a necessary image processing on all of the image data read by the image reading device;

means for carrying out a special image processing on the image data read by the image reading device, the special image processing being specially designated by an operator request and includes at least two separate special image processes; and

means for instructing the special image processing to be carried out by said special image processing means,

wherein the special image processing is canceled if said at least two separate special image processes are instructed by said means for instructing and ~~said at least two separate special image processes are combined in a combination other than a predetermined combination of at least two separate special image processes that have not been linked together in advance as a suitable combination combinations of separate special image processes, and~~

wherein the special image processing is not canceled if said at least two separate special image processes are instructed by said means for instructing and ~~said at least two separate special image processes are combined into the~~

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~~predetermined combination wherein the predetermined combination is a combination of at least two separate special image processes set~~ have been linked together in advance as a suitable combination, and

~~wherein the predetermined combination is a combination of at least two separate special image processes set in advance and at least one of said separate special image processes is selected from the group consisting of LF Lens Correction, Hypersharpness, Hypertone, Facial Expression Improvement, RP Finish, Monotone Finish, Brightness Enhancement, Fine Finish, Portrait Finish, Red Eye Correction, Cross Filter, Mirror, Negative/Positive Inverting, Color Pencil Touch, Poster Type, Posted Bill, Background Exchange and Layer Transparent processes~~

wherein said at least two separate special image processes are stored in said image processing apparatus regardless of whether said at least two special image processes have been linked together in advance as suitable combinations.

2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said instructing means gives an instruction in accordance with the contents of a recording medium which is provided for a customer and at which the contents of an order are recorded.

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the processing which is performed by said special

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image processing means is an image processing which includes at least an image structure effect for correcting the overall structure of the image, a color reproduction effect for correcting the color tone of the image, and a special effect for performing a variety of special processings for the structure and the color tone in accordance with the image read by the image reading device.

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the processing which is performed by said special image processing means is an image processing which includes at least an image structure effect for correcting the overall structure of the image, a color reproduction effect for correcting the color tone of the image, and a special effect for performing a variety of special processings for the structure and the color tone in accordance with the image read by the image reading device.

Claims 5-7 (CANCELLED)

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a special image processing instructed last is given priority and a special image processing instructed first is cancelled when said at least two separate special image processes have not been linked together in advance as a suitable combination ~~the predetermined combination of special image processings has been instructed by said instructing means.~~

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Claims 9 and 10 (CANCELLED)

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising means for notifying an operator of the contents of the special image processings which have actually been instructed by said instructing means.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising means for notifying an operator of the contents of the special image processings which have actually been instructed by said instructing means.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising notifying means for notifying an operator of the contents of the special image processings which have actually been instructed by said instructing means.

Claims 14 and 15 (CANCELLED)

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said image reading device includes a monitor which can display an image based on read image data in a plurality of display states including a single frame display state and a plural frame display state,

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and an instruction issued from said instructing means is only valid when the contents of the image processing of said special image processing means instructed by said instructing means and the display state of the monitor have been linked together in advance as a suitable combination ~~do not match with the predetermined combination.~~

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said image reading device includes a monitor which can display an image based on read image data in a plurality of display states including a single frame display state and a plural frame display state, and an instruction issued from said instructing means is only valid when the contents of the image processing of said special image processing means instructed by said instructing means and the display state of the monitor have been linked together in advance as a suitable combination ~~do not match with the predetermined combination.~~

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said image reading device includes a monitor which can display an image based on read image data in a plurality of display states including a single frame display state and a plural frame display state, and an instruction issued from said instructing means is only valid when the contents of the image processing of said special image processing means instructed by said instructing means and the display state of the monitor have

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~~been linked together in advance as a suitable combination do not match with the predetermined combination.~~

Claims 19-22 (CANCELLED)

23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An image processing apparatus for processing an image recorded on a recording medium, said image processing apparatus comprising:

an image reading device for reading the image recorded on the recording medium as digital image data, subjecting the read digital image data to predetermined image processing, and outputting processed image data;

means for carrying out a necessary image processing on all of the image data read by the image reading device, ~~wherein said necessary image processing includes at least one of color balance adjustment, contrast adjustment and adjustment correction;~~

means for carrying out a special image processing on the image data read by the image reading device, the special image processing being specially designated by an operator request and includes a combination of at least two separate image processes, ~~wherein said special image processing includes at least one of LF-Lens-Correction, Hypersharpness, Hypertone, Facial-Expression-Improvement, RP-Finish, Monotone-Finish, Brightness-Enhancement, Fine-Finish, Portrait-Finish, Red-Eye-Correction, Cross-Filter, Mirror,~~

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~~Negative/Positive Inverting, Color Pencil Touch, Poster Type, Posted Bill, Background Exchange and Layer Transparent processes; and~~

means for instructing the special image processing to be carried out by said special image processing means,

wherein unsuitable combinations of image processings are prohibited from being executed on the image by said special image processing means and suitable combinations of image processings are permitted to be executed on the image by said special image processing means, said unsuitable combinations of image processings including a predetermined combination of at least two or more separate special image processes ~~selected from the group consisting of LF Lens Correction, Hypersharpness, Hypertone, Facial Expression Improvement, RP Finish, Monotone Finish, Brightness Enhancement, Fine Finish, Portrait Finish, Red Eye Correction, Cross Filter, Mirror, Negative/Positive Inverting, Color Pencil Touch, Poster Type, Posted Bill, Background Exchange and Layer Transparent processes~~, wherein said predetermined combination includes an erroneous unsuitable combination of special image processes, and

wherein said at least two separate special image processes are stored in said image processing apparatus regardless of whether said at least two special image processes are suitable or unsuitable combinations.

24. (CANCELLED)

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25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An image processing apparatus for processing an image recorded on a recording medium, said image processing apparatus comprising:

an image reading device for reading the image recorded on the recording medium as digital image data, subjecting the read digital image data to predetermined image processing, and outputting processed image data;

an image processing section storing the digital image data and for carrying out necessary image processing and special image processing, wherein said image processing section for carrying out necessary image processing and said special image processing includes

automatically carrying out a necessary image processing on all of the digital image data read by the image reading device, ~~wherein said necessary image processing includes at least one of color balance adjustment, contrast adjustment and adjustment correction;~~

selectively carrying out a selected special image processing on the digital image data read by the image reading device when the special image processing is specifically designated by an operator request and includes at least two separate special image processes, ~~wherein said selected special image processing includes at least one of LF Lens Correction, Hypersharpness, Hypertone, Facial Expression Improvement, RP Finish, Monotone Finish, Brightness Enhancement, Fine Finish, Portrait Finish, Red Eye Correction, Cross Filter, Mirror,~~

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~~Negative/Positive Inverting, Color Pencil Touch, Poster Type, Posted Bill, Background Exchange and Layer Transparent Processes; and~~

prohibiting unsuitable combinations of special image processings from being executed on the image by said image processing section and permitting suitable combinations of special image processings to be executed on the image by said image processing section, said unsuitable combinations of image processings including a predetermined combination of ~~at least two or more~~ separate special image processes selected ~~from the group consisting of LP Lens Correction, Hypersharpness, Hypertone, Facial Expression Improvement, RP Finish, Monotone Finish, Brightness Enhancement, Fine Finish, Portrait Finish, Red Eye Correction, Cross Filter, Mirror, Negative/Positive Inverting, Color Pencil Touch, Poster Type, Posted Bill, Background Exchange and Layer Transparent Processes,~~ wherein said predetermined combination includes an ~~erroneous~~ unsuitable combination of special image processes, and

wherein said at least two separate special image processes are stored in said image processing apparatus regardless of whether said at least separate two special image processes are suitable or unsuitable combinations.

26. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 25, wherein said operator request designating said selected

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special image process is stored in a customer specific identification card or a database.

27. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 26, wherein said customer specific identification card includes at least one of a barcode and a memory device.

28. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 25, wherein said image reading device is a CCD scanner.

29. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 25, said image processing section comprising:

an image memory for storing inputted image data;

a color gradation processing section;

a hypertone processing section; and

a hypersharpness processing section, wherein said image data is subjected to necessary image processing and special image processing in said color gradation, hypertone and hypersharpness processing sections.

30. (NEW) The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said at least one of said separate special image processes is selected from the group consisting of LF Lens Correction, Hypersharpness, Hypertone, Facial Expression Improvement, RP Finish, Monotone Finish, Brightness

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Enhancement, Fine Finish, Portrait Finish, Red Eye Correction, Cross Filter, Mirror, Negative/Positive Inverting, Color Pencil Touch, Poster Type, Posted Bill, Background Exchange and Layer Transparent processes.

31. (NEW) The image processing apparatus according to claim 23,

wherein said necessary image processing includes at least one of color balance adjustment, contrast adjustment and adjustment correction,

wherein said special image processing includes at least one of LF Lens Correction, Hypersharpness, Hypertone, Facial Expression Improvement, RP Finish, Monotone Finish, Brightness Enhancement, Fine Finish, Portrait Finish, Red Eye Correction, Cross Filter, Mirror, Negative/Positive Inverting, Color Pencil Touch, Poster Type, Posted Bill, Background Exchange and Layer Transparent processes, and

wherein said unsuitable combinations of image processings including a predetermined combination of at least two separate special image processes are selected from the group consisting of LF Lens Correction, Hypersharpness, Hypertone, Facial Expression Improvement, RP Finish, Monotone Finish, Brightness Enhancement, Fine Finish, Portrait Finish, Red Eye Correction, Cross Filter, Mirror, Negative/Positive Inverting, Color Pencil Touch, Poster Type, Posted Bill, Background Exchange and Layer Transparent Processes.

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32. (NEW) The image processing apparatus according to claim 25,

wherein said necessary image processing includes at least one of color balance adjustment, contrast adjustment and adjustment correction,

wherein said special image processing includes at least one of LF Lens Correction, Hypersharpness, Hypertone, Facial Expression Improvement, RP Finish, Monotone Finish, Brightness Enhancement, Fine Finish, Portrait Finish, Red Eye Correction, Cross Filter, Mirror, Negative/Positive Inverting, Color Pencil Touch, Poster Type, Posted Bill, Background Exchange and Layer Transparent processes, and

wherein said unsuitable combinations of image processings including a predetermined combination of at least two separate special image processes are selected from the group consisting of LF Lens Correction, Hypersharpness, Hypertone, Facial Expression Improvement, RP Finish, Monotone Finish, Brightness Enhancement, Fine Finish, Portrait Finish, Red Eye Correction, Cross Filter, Mirror, Negative/Positive Inverting, Color Pencil Touch, Poster Type, Posted Bill, Background Exchange and Layer Transparent Processes.